

Wycombe W. crash to the leaders

Sports Mail Special Report

TOOTING AND M. 5 : WYCOMBE WANDS. 1

WYCOMBE Wanderers, second in the Isthmian League, found Tooting and Mitcham United, the leaders, too tough a handful away from home this afternoon and lost 5—1.

Tooting and M.: Pearson; Edwards, Murphy; Humphries, Bennett, Holden; Grainger, Roberts, Hasty, Viney, Flanagan.

Wycombe W.: Brown; Beck, Moring; Truett, Fisher, Fryer; Atkins, Trott, Rockell, Bates, Free.

Referee: E W Ruck.

Tooting made the running in blistering heat and within five minutes Roberts headed the ball on to the Wycombe crossbar with Brown beaten.

The Wycombe attack looked a patchwork affair compared with the slick Tooting combination. Rockell, finding the centre impassable, wandered on to the wing and it was left to Atkins to send in Wycombe's first three shots.

Brilliant Tooting winger FLANAGAN, who was giving Beck a terrible time, tapped home the first goal in the 18th minute, after Wycombe had failed to clear Hasty's centre.

BEST MOVE

Then came Wycombe's best move of the game. After Fryer had flicked the ball passed two defenders, Bates ran through to the penalty area and was robbed in the act of shooting.

Brown made two flying saves from Viney, but it was the turn of the Tooting defence to suffer and Bates and Atkins foraged intelligently.

Back came Tooting and after Moring had cleared the ball from Grainger's feet, Roberts headed a Murphy free kick to the feet of HASTY, and the vigilant "Paddy" easily beat Brown.

Tooting nearly had a third when Fryer, under pressure, shot the ball past his own goalpost.

The speed and trickery of the home forwards was ripping the Wanderers' defence wide open. HASTY scored a third goal after two lightning passes across the Wycombe goal.

GREAT SAVES

Two great saves by Brown from Viney and Roberts denied Tooting further triumphs.

Half-time: Tooting and M. 3, Wycombe Wanderers 0

Tooting, out to score their first ever league victory over the Wanderers, showed no signs of slackening pace, and there was no rest for Brown.

But it was Wycombe, fighting back, who scored after Holden had held off Atkins in the penalty area, the referee pointed to the spot. BATES missed the first kick, but—to the tune of loud boos—scored from the re-take, goalkeeper Pearson having moved.

GRAINGER scored Tooting's fourth goal and HASTY his third.

Had it not been for Brown's daring goalkeeping Tooting would have been nearly at double figures.

Wycombe's coach Sid Cann, switched Atkins, Wanderers' liveliest forward into the centre.

RESULT:

TOOTING & MITCHAM .. 5
WYCOMBE WAN. 1

Wycombe outplayed

Tooting 5 Wycombe 1

IRISH international Paddy Hasty enhanced the claim that he is the most dangerous centre forward in amateur football when he cracked three opportunist goals for Tooting in this top-of-the-table tussle at Mitcham.

Tooting retained their position at the head of the Isthmian League table with a display of top-grade football which had Wycombe Wan-

derers despairing long before the end.

With Hasty as the spearhead, Tooting's front line kept up relentless pressure on the Wanderers' goal.

Wycombe were no match for the speed and thrust of Tooting. Their face-saving goal shortly after the interval had an element of luck about it.

Paul Bates, Wycombe's inside left, shot wide from a penalty awarded for a foul on right-winger Atkins. But because Tooting goalkeeper Wally Pearson moved the referee ordered the kick to be retaken—and Bates made no mistake.

Left-winger Denzil Flanagan set Tooting on the winning trail after a quarter of an hour when he stumbled past three defenders and shot into the net from a sharp angle. Then two chances were snapped up by Hasty to give Tooting a three-nil interval lead.

Tooting lost none of their enterprise after the interval. In the 60th minute Albert Grainger, on the Tooting right wing, ended a solo effort with a goal and then Hasty scored again.